WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1.   A portable terminal device, comprising:

a network connection unit configured to establish a

5   connection to a computer network;

a local network connection unit configured to
establish a connection to a local network different from
the computer network, the local network being a network
locally defined among the portable terminal device and at

10   least one other computer device; and

a processing unit configured to obtain a prescribed
information regarding the computer network that is
necessary or utilizable in operating an application program
to be operated on the portable terminal device by being

15   connected to the computer network, from said at least one
other computer device connected to the portable terminal
device via the local network through the local network
connection unit, carry out a prescribed processing for the
application program according to at least a part of the

20   prescribed information, and execute the application program
by using a result of the prescribed processing and being
connected to the computer network through the network
connection unit.

25   2.   The portable terminal device of claim 1, wherein the
processing unit carries out the prescribed processing to
make a prescribed setup regarding the computer network.

3.   The portable terminal device of claim 2, wherein the

30   processing unit makes the prescribed setup by storing said
at least a part of the prescribed information into a
prescribed memory region for the application program,
either as obtained from said at least one other computer
device or by converting said at least a part of the

35   prescribed information into a format matching with the

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application program and/or a user interface of the portable terminal device.

4.   The portable terminal device of claim 1, wherein the processing unit obtains the prescribed information related to a specified type of application program that exists in said at least one other computer device.

5.   The portable terminal device of claim 4, wherein the processing unit obtains the prescribed information by transmitting to said at least one other computer device via the local network a first request for obtaining an identification information for identifying said specified type of application program, receiving a reply containing the identification information from said at least one other computer device via the local network in response to the first request, transmitting to said at least one other computer device via the local network a second request for obtaining the prescribed information according to the identification information contained in the reply, and receiving the prescribed information from said at least one other computer device via the local network in response to the second request.

6.   The portable terminal device of claim 1, wherein the local network enables data exchanges between the portable terminal device and said at least one other computer device by using a wireless LAN (Local Area Network), a point-to-point wireless device, or an infrared as a medium.

7.   The portable terminal device of claim 1, wherein the processing unit carries out data exchanges on the local network only with a computer device that is authenticated by a prescribed mutual authentication procedure.

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8.   The portable terminal device of claim 1, wherein the processing unit carries out a procedure for obtaining the prescribed information for each one of a plurality of application programs installed on the portable terminal

5   device, at a timing of activation of the portable terminal device.

9.   The portable terminal device of claim 1, wherein the processing unit carries out a procedure for obtaining the

10   prescribed information for the application program at a timing of activation of the application program.

10.   The portable terminal device of claim 1, wherein the processing unit carries out a procedure for transferring

15   the prescribed information obtained from a first computer device via the local network to a second computer connected to the local network.

11.   The portable terminal device of claim 1, wherein the

20   processing unit carries out a procedure for transferring the prescribed information obtained via the local network to one or a plurality of computer devices connected to the local network.

25   12.   The portable terminal device of claim 1, wherein the network connection unit carries out communications via the computer network through a radio base station.

13.   The portable terminal device of claim 1, wherein the

30   prescribed information is setup data or input data for the application program.

14.   The portable terminal device of claim 13, further comprising a user interface for enabling user input into

35   the portable terminal device;

wherein the processing unit carries out the prescribed processing to enter the setup data or the input data into the portable terminal device in a form utilizable by the application program, without using the user interface.

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15. A computer device, comprising:

a local network connection unit configured to establish a connection to a local network that is locally defined among the computer device and a portable terminal

10 device; and

a processing unit configured to return a reply containing an identification information for identifying a specified type of application program that exists in the computer device, or a prescribed information related to

15 said specified type of application program, in response to a request received from the portable terminal device via the local network through the local network connection unit.

20 16. The computer device of claim 13, wherein the processing unit receives from the portable terminal device via the local network a first request for obtaining the identification information, transmits a first reply containing the identification information to the portable

25 terminal device via the local network in response to the first request, receives from the portable terminal device via the local network a second request for obtaining the prescribed information, and transmits a second reply containing the prescribed information to the portable

30 terminal device via the local network in response to the second request.

17. A communication method of a portable terminal device having a function for executing application programs and a

35 function for establishing a connection to a computer

network;

establishing a connection to a local network different from the computer network, the local network being a network locally defined among the portable terminal device

5   and at least one other computer device; and

obtaining a prescribed information regarding the computer network that is necessary or utilizable in operating an application program to be operated on the portable terminal device by being connected to the computer

10 network, from said at least one other computer device connected to the portable terminal device via the local network, and carrying out a prescribed processing for the application program according to at least a part of the prescribed information.

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18.   A communication method of a computer device, comprising:

establishing a connection to a local network that is locally defined among the computer device and a portable

20 terminal device; and

returning a reply containing an identification information for identifying a specified type of application program that exists in the computer device, or a prescribed information related to said specified type of application

25 program, in response to a request received from the portable terminal device via the local network.

19.   A computer usable medium having computer readable program codes embodied therein for causing a computer to

30 function as a portable terminal device, the computer readable program codes include:

a first computer readable program code for causing said computer to establish a connection to a computer network;

35   a second computer readable program code for causing

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said computer to establish a connection to a local network
different from the computer network, the local network
being a network locally defined among the portable terminal
device and at least one other computer device; and

5   a third computer readable program code for causing
said computer to obtain a prescribed information regarding
the computer network that is necessary or utilizable in
operating an application program to be operated on the
portable terminal device by being connected to the computer
10   network, from said at least one other computer device
connected to the portable terminal device via the local
network, carry out a prescribed processing for the
application program according to at least a part of the
prescribed information, and execute the application program
15   by using a result of the prescribed processing and being
connected to the computer network.

20.   A computer usable medium having computer readable
program codes embodied therein for causing a computer to
20   function as a computer device, the computer readable
program codes include:
      a first computer readable program code for causing
said computer to establish a connection to a local network
that is locally defined among the computer device and a
25   portable terminal device; and
      a second computer readable program code for causing
said computer to return a reply containing an
identification information for identifying a specified type
of application program that exists in the computer device,
30   or a prescribed information related to said specified type
of application program, in response to a request received
from the portable terminal device via the local network.

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